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Application No.: 10/763,061
Amendment Dated December 19, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 7, 2005
Attorney Docket No.: F033-3

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A method of forming a probe tip, comprising the steps of:
providing a probe tip support member;
directing a charged particle beam activated gaseous material toward a surface of said probe tip support member; and
scanning a charged particle beam over said surface, the charged particle beam inducing a reaction with the charged particle beam activated gas to deposit a catalyst layer, said catalyst layer comprising a material capable of catalyzing the growth of a nanotube; and
growing a nanotube on the catalyst layer in a process catalyzed by said material.
2. (original) The method of claim 1 in which providing a probe tip support member comprises providing a probe tip support member having at one end a substantially planar surface.
3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said catalyst layer has a substantially non-uniform thickness.
4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said catalyst layer has a substantially planar surface which is not parallel to the planar surface of said probe tip support member.
5. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein said nanotube extends in a direction substantially perpendicular to the surface of said catalyst layer.